

## **News Release**

## IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

The Idaho Water Center, 322 E. Front St., Boise, ID - TEL: (208) 287-4800 FAX: (208) 287-6700 Internet Homepage: http://www.idwr.state.id.us

## **Release 2004-47**

## **Water Quality Conference Aims To Foster Cooperation**

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho - October 15, 2004 For Media Information Contact: Michael Keckler – (208) 287-4800

Top water quality experts from throughout the Northwest will be in Boise next week to take part in a conference designed to improve communication and understanding between people involved in agriculture, environmental organizations and government.

The three-day conference October 18 –20 is being held at the Boise Centre on the Grove and will feature keynote speeches from Sara Braasch, NRCS Regional Assistant Chief and Chuck Coiner, a Twin Falls County farmer. Ann Klee, President Bush's nominee to become the Environmental Protection Agency's next Assistant Administrator General Counsel will speak during a luncheon on October 20.

Three water quality workshops are planned and there will also be several breakout sessions and panel discussions on a wide variety of issues from detecting and quantifying impacts on ground water by large dairy operations to the current water crisis griping the Magic Valley. The panel discussions will involve agriculture and water management officials from Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

Media interested in covering the conference can get a schedule of events by contacting either Michael Keckler or Ken Neely at 830-5673.